Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 100957
ORIGIN CAB-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /037 R

DRAFTED BY CAB:JDRISCOLL
APPROVED BY EB/OA(ACTING):RABROWN
EB/OA/AVP:GGGRIFFITHS
AF/W:RHART
----------092422 200337Z /15
P 200003Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 100957

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, LI

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: CAB REPLY TO MINISTER DENNIS

1. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING REPLY TO TELEGRAM THAT MINISTER DENNIS SENT DIRECTLY TO USCAB ON MARCH 28 CONCERNING IATA FARES.

2. BEGIN TEXT:
HONORABLE WILLIAM E. DENNIS
MINISTER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND TRANSPORTATION
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

DEAR MINISTER DENNIS:

THANK YOU FOR THE EARLY STATEMENT OF YOUR GOVERNMENT'S CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBLE INCREASES IN IATA FARES FOR THE UPCOMING SUMMER SEASON.

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THE ONLY OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM IATA IS THAT THEY AGREED TO EXTEND THE CURRENT FARES BETWEEN AFRICA AND NORTH AMERICA FOR TWO MONTHS BETWEEN APRIL 1 AND MAY 31, IN ORDER TO WORK FURTHER ON SUMMER FARES TO BE EFFECTIVE JUNE 1. WE HAVE SINCE BEEN TOLD INFORMALLY THAT THE IATA CONFERENCE HAS NOW REACHED

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AGREEMENT ON SUMMER FARES, BUT WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED
ANY OF THE MATERIALS DESCRIBING THEM.

IF OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE SITUATION IS CORRECT, THE
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MUST REVIEW TWO SEPARATE
IATA FARE AGREEMENTS. THE FIRST IS THE IMMEDIATE
SHORT-TERM AGREEMENT TO MAINTAIN THE EXISTING FARE LEVELS
AND THE SECOND IS THE FARE AGREEMENT TO COVER THE REST
OF THE SUMMER 1978 SEASON. IN REVIEWING IATA AGREEMENTS
THE BOARD IS GUIDED BY US AVIATION POLICY, WHICH
ENCOURAGES CARRIERS TO OFFER LOW FARES THAT CAN
ECONOMICALLY JUSTIFIED.

IF THE BOARD APPROVES AN IATA AGREEMENT, IT USUALLY
APPROVES SUBSEQUENT CARRIER TARIFF FILINGS THAT ARE
CONSISTENT WITH IT. SHOULD THE BOARD NOT APPROVE AN
IATA AGREEMENT, IT WOULD THEN REVIEW INDIVIDUAL CARRIER
TARIFF FILINGS AND WOULD DO SO CONSISTENTLY WITH THE
PERTINENT BILATERAL AGREEMENTS, IN THIS CASE, ARTICLE
VI OF THE RECENTLY SIGNED BILATERAL AIR SERVICES
AGREEMENT BETWEEN LIBERIA AND THE UNITED STATES.

TODAY, APRIL 19, THE BOARD APPROVED THE FIRST SHORT-
TERM IATA AGREEMENT EXTENDING THE CURRENT

NORTHATLNTIC FARES UNTIL JUNE 1. THE BOARD HAS YET
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TO REVIEW THE SECOND IATA AGREEMENT FOR SUMMER FARES
AFTER JUNE 1, AND I CANNOT PREDICT NOW WHAT THE RESULT
OF THAT REVIEW WILL BE. WE NOTE THAT YOU HAVE
REGISTERED YOUR DISAPPROVAL OF PROPOSED FARE
INCREASES WITH IATA, AND WE RESPECT ANY GOVERNMENT'S
RIGHT TO WITHHOLD APPROVAL OF AN IATA AGREEMENT. IF OUR
DECIION ON THE IATA AGREEMENTS AND SUBSEQUENT CARRIER
TARIFF FILINGS PROVES UNSATISFACTORY TO YOU, PLEASE BE
IN TOUCH WITH US. ARTICLES VI AND X OF THE NEW
BILATERAL AGREEMENT WOULD ENABLE US TO DISCUSS ANY
DISAGREEMENT WE MAY HAVE THEN.
SINCERELY,
ALFRED E. KAHN, CHAIRMAN
CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD
END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, AIR FARES, AVIATION AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE100957
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JDRISCOLL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780168-0697
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780434/aaaabcux.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 815b79aa-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN CAB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2901651
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: CAB REPLY TO MINISTER DENNIS
TAGS: EAIR, LI, US, CAB, IATA, (DENNIS, WILLIAM E)
To: MONROVIA
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/815b79aa-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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